



DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH POLICY/PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: PRESCRIBED DRUGS	POLICY NO. 103.4	EFFECTIVE DATE 03/01/03	PAGE 1 of 2
APPROVED BY: Director	SUPERSEDES 09/01/93	ORIGINAL ISSUE DATE 09/01/93	DISTRIBUTION LEVEL(S) 2

PURPOSE

- 1.1 To establish Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) prescribed drugs policy and procedures for contractors. Contractor is defined as an agency that has a Board of Supervisors approved agreement with the LACDMH to provide mental health services.

POLICY

- 2.1 Prescribed drugs will be provided by LACDMH to contractors' eligible patients as follows:
 - 2.1.1 Only prescribed drugs that are shown on the LACDMH prescription drug formulary.
 - 2.1.2 Only when the prescribed drugs are provided by a pharmacy that has an agreement for this purpose with LACDMH.
 - 2.1.3 Any exceptions to this policy must be negotiated with the Department's Medical Director and the agreed upon exception then detailed in the contractor's Board of Supervisors approved agreement.
 - 2.1.4 Federal Short-Doyle/Medi-Cal beneficiaries only for prescribed drugs that are on the State's formulary for Fee-for-Service Medi-Cal.
 - 2.1.5 All other County mental health clients, except as detailed in the contractor's LACDMH agreement.
- 2.3 Prescribed drug expenditures will be accounted for separately and shall not be included in any service function code(s).
 - 2.3.1 Contractors shall report their service function code costs exclusive of the prescribed drug costs incurred by LACDMH.
 - 2.3.2 The negotiated rate(s) agreed upon by LACDMH and the contractor(s) shall not include any prescribed drug costs.



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2.4 LACDMH shall pay only for prescribed drugs for contractors:

2.4.1 Who have been approved by the LACDMH Medical Director's office to participate in the Prescription Authorization Tracking System (PATS); or

2.4.2 As specifically detailed in the Board approved agreement between LACDMH and the contractor.

PROCEDURE

3.1 LACDMH will pay prescribed drug costs from County funds as appropriated by the Board of Supervisors for the Drugs and Medicines Account (Minor Object Code 3066).

AUTHORITY

Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 16800

REVIEW DATE:

This policy shall be reviewed no later than March 15, 2008.